



U.S. Department of Justice

*United States Attorney
District of New Hampshire*

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**MEDIA RELEASE
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**MANCHESTER MAN CONVICTED OF FEDERAL
CRACK COCAINE DISTRIBUTION CHARGES**

Re: United States v. Justin Foote, aka "Styles"

Concord, New Hampshire -- United States Attorney Tom Colantuono, N.H. State Police Colonel Gary Sloper, and Manchester Police Chief Mark Driscoll announced that **Justin Foote, aka "Styles"**, date of birth of August 2, 1981, of Manchester, NH pleaded guilty to crack cocaine distribution and weapon possession charges.

FOOTE was arrested by Manchester and New Hampshire State Police officers on October 15, 2002, along with ten others, as part of their joint "Operation Beantown" investigation, so named because of its focus on alleged Boston-based drug traffickers that had relocated to Manchester.

FOOTE entered his guilty plea before U.S. Magistrate Judge James R. Muirhead. The charges state that FOOTE distributed cocaine base, also known as "crack cocaine," in Manchester on August 7, 2002. Magistrate Judge Muirhead detained FOOTE without bail pending his sentencing hearing before U.S. District Judge Joseph A. DeClerico, Jr. scheduled for May 7, 2003 in the U.S. District Court in Concord. FOOTE faces a potential maximum sentence of 20 years imprisonment.

U.S. Attorney Colantuono stated, "This case demonstrates our Office's commitment to aggressively prosecuting drug traffickers, including the street-level crack dealers operating in Manchester and New Hampshire's other larger cities. Operation Beantown is a prime example of the effectiveness of cooperative efforts between federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies in combating the disastrous impact of crack cocaine on our urban neighborhoods and their residents. This Office will continue to commit federal resources to these efforts."

The conviction resulted from a joint investigation conducted by the Manchester Police Department's Special Investigations Unit and the N.H. State Police Narcotics Investigation Unit. The prosecution is being handled by Assistant United States Attorney Joseph N. Laplante.